



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: May 13, 2014

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **Bicycle Traffic Safety Program Update, 2014**

Recommendation: Receive and file

Department Information:

Prepared by: Simon Blenski, Bicycle Planner, 612-616-7345

Approved by: _____

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Simon Blenski, Bicycle Planner

Supporting Information

The Bicycle Traffic Safety Program aims to implement projects identified in the Minneapolis Bicycle Master Plan. The goal of the program is to improve the actual and perceived safety of bicyclists and increase the number of trips made by bicycle in Minneapolis.

Currently, street resurfacing projects are the primary method for implementing small-scaled infrastructure projects identified in the Bicycle Master Plan. Each year, staff works with the City's Bicycle Advisory Committee to review upcoming resurfacing projects and prioritize related bicycle projects. The projects incorporate new design standards such as durable bike lane markings, green markings at signalized intersections, and other enhancements such as buffered or wider bike lanes.

Larger-scale infrastructure projects such as trails, protected bike lanes, bike boulevards, and bikeway signalization are typically funded through capital and grant funding. 2014 projects of this category include the W 36th St protected bike lane and pedestrian path project, which will provide a comfortable, trail-like connection between Bryant Avenue South and Lake Calhoun. A number of bikeway signalization and trail lighting projects will also be delivered in 2014 using capital funds. Lastly, the Dinkytown Greenway will be completed in 2014, providing a direct connection from the University of Minnesota to downtown.

In 2014, staff is planning for future bikeways on East 26th Street, East 28th Street, 26th Avenue North, and Franklin Avenue Southeast. A major focus is to develop a network of protected bikeways and recommendations for near-term implementation. Public Works is also monitoring projects that have already been implemented through its annual bicycle count program.

Outreach efforts include education of both bicyclists and drivers. Public Works is partnering with the Minneapolis Police Department to distribute thousands of bicycle law info cards to the public in 2014. Also, bicycle and pedestrian safety was incorporated into the curriculum of Public Works safety training. Since 2013, Public Works employees who drive a vehicle for work have been instructed how to properly turn across a bike lane and anticipate common bicycle crash situations.

Attachments

A: Presentation – Bicycle Traffic Safety Program Update, 2014